

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 9 and 12, and add new Claims 62 to 67, as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A document processing system comprising:

folder retaining means for retaining a plurality of folders, each of the folders ~~existing at a position in a sort structure and~~ storing at least one document;

new document retaining means for retaining a new document;

candidate folder selecting means for selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored, ~~by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders;~~

notifying means for notifying ~~said a~~ the plurality of candidate folders selected by said candidate folder selecting means to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of candidate folders notified by said notifying means, ~~without changing the position in the sort structure.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A document processing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

4. (Previously Presented) A document processing system comprising:

judging means for judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of documents stored in folders existing at a position in a sort structure;

similarity order calculating means for calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity degree judged by said judging means;

and

notifying means for notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order calculated by said similarity order calculating means to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders notified by said notifying means, without changing the position in the sort structure.

5 to 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing a the new document as a folder to be stored, ~~by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of the documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders, each of the folders existing at a position in a sort structure and storing at least one document;~~

and

notifying ~~said a~~ the plurality of candidate folders selected in said selecting step to a user; and

storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from ~~said a~~ the plurality of candidate folders notified by said notifying means, ~~without changing the position of the sort structure.~~

10. (Previously Presented) A document processing method comprising the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of documents stored in folders existing at a position in a sort structure;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity degree judged in said judging step; and

notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order calculated in said calculating step to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders notified by said notifying means, without changing the position in the sort structure.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

selecting a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing ~~a the~~ new document as a folder to be stored, ~~by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among a plurality of folders, each of the folders existing at a position in a sort structure and storing at least one document;~~

notifying ~~said a~~ the plurality of candidate folders selected in said selecting step to a user; and

storing ~~means for storing~~ the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders notified by said notifying means, ~~without changing the position in the sort structure.~~

13. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium storing programs executing the steps of:

judging a similarity degree between document information of a new document to be stored and a plurality of sets of document information of a plurality of documents stored in a folder existing at a position in a sort structure;

calculating a similarity order of a plurality of folders in accordance with the similarity judged in said judging step; and

notifying the plurality of folders together with the similarity order calculated in said calculating step to a user; and

storing means for storing the new document into a selected folder selected by the user from the plurality of folders notified by said notifying means, without changing the position in the sort structure.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

16. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for saving the new document are selected and a list of a plurality of selected candidate folders is displayed.

17. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

18. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes vector data.

19. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

20. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means displays a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

21. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the document includes text data.

22. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the document includes vector data.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the document comprises text data.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

29. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise the step of updating the feature of the folder in response to saving of the new document in the candidate folder.

30. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document includes vector data.

31. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the candidate folder has a high-level rank as determined by the result of the comparison.

32. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label which is set in advance to indicate the candidate folder.

33. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein the document comprises text data.

34. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said steps further comprise the step of causing the selected candidate folder to save the new document.

35. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means provides notification only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

36. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided by said notifying means.

37. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein said notifying means displays a label set in advance to the selected folder.

38. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein the document includes text data.

39. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

40. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

41. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

42. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the document includes text data.

43. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein, in said notifying step, notification is provided only of a predetermined number of folders which have a high rank of similarity order.

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44. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document is stored in at least one folder mentioned in the notification provided in said notifying step.

45. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein said notifying step includes displaying a label set in advance to the selected folder.

46. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the document includes text data.

47 to 61. (Cancelled)

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62. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said candidate folder selecting means selects a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored, by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders.

63. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means notifies of only the plurality of candidate folders selected by said candidate folder selecting means to a user.

64. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored is selected in said candidate folder selecting step by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders.

65. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein said notifying step notifies of only the plurality of candidate folders selected in said candidate folder selecting step to a user.

66. (New) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein a plurality of candidate folders suitable for storing the new document as a folder to be stored is selected in said candidate folder selecting step by comparing a feature of the new document with an average of features of documents stored in a folder among the plurality of folders.

67. (New) A storage medium according to claim 12, wherein said notifying step notifies of only the plurality of candidate folders selected in said candidate folder selecting step to a user.